



NEWSLINE

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DWC Launches New Online QME Form 106 Panel Process October 1

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will implement a new <u>online panel process</u> for represented initial panel requests on October 1. It requires parties in a represented case to submit initial Qualified Medical Examiner (QME) panel requests online and immediately receive a QME panel. The requesting party will then serve the panel request form, any required documentation and the QME on all parties with a proof of service.

"Represented injured workers can get QME medical legal without delay, and this will also allow DWC resources to help unrepresented workers obtain panel doctors," said Christine Baker, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). DWC is a division of DIR.

Attorneys must have a Uniformed Assigned Name (UAN) to access the online QME Form 106 Panel Request. (Unrepresented injured workers will continue to use the paper Form 105.) Information on the new online panel process, including FAQs and a training video, is available on the DWC Medical Unit website.

The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the division's final version of the QME regulations. The effective date of the new regulations was September 1, 2015. Notices of rulemaking, text of the regulations, and the initial statements of reasons can be found on the DWC rulemaking page. For continuous updates about the division's activities, subscribe to the DWC Newsline.

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The <u>California Department of Industrial Relations</u>, established in 1927, protects and improves the health, safety, and economic well-being of over 18 million wage earners, and helps their employers comply with state labor laws. DIR is housed within the <u>Labor & Workforce Development Agency</u>. For general inquiries, contact DIR's Communications Call Center at 1-844-LABOR-DIR (1-844-522-6734) for help in locating the appropriate <u>division or program</u> in our department.